



Mishawaka Communicator



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Working together to build the "Best Hometown in America" by delivering exceptional services, promoting safe and clean neighborhoods, elevating the quality of life, and inspiring pride in our community.

Mishawaka, Indiana

Jeff Rea, Mayor

September 2009

A Letter from Mayor Jeff Rea

Many of you that regularly travel through the North Main Street corridor have undoubtedly noticed that construction of the underpass is nearing completion. When Main Street was extended across the Indiana Toll Road in 1995, it became the major north-south arterial route through the city, connecting the city's Central Business District to major commercial and residential developments on the north to the



US 20 Bypass south of the city. The underpass was necessary to help reduce traffic congestion and to improve community safety by reducing the Mishawaka Police, Fire, and Emergency Medical Services delays at the grade railroad crossing on Main Street.

In less than two months the contractor will complete the reconstruction of neighborhood streets and all landscaping. Construction began in September 2007 following the acquisition and demolition of 39 commercial and residential properties. Early stages of the project in 2007 and into early 2008 were concentrated on the relocation of underground utilities such as telephone, electric, gas, cable, water mains and sanitary sewers to enable the contractor to begin the installation of storm sewers and retaining walls supporting the railroad bridge for the road to pass under the railroad.

During the summer of the 2008 construction season the actual underpass became much more visible as the section of Main Street between Battell and Broadway was reconstructed to its final width of four travel lanes with a center left turn lane including curbs,



sidewalks and street lighting. By the end of August 2008 the railroad bridge that would carry the Canadian National Railroad over Main Street was completed. With the bridge completed the contractor could concentrate on installation of the retaining walls along the outsides of the underpass roadway north of the railroad. Also during closure the pavement for Main Street north of Jefferson connecting to existing Main Street at Donaldson Street was installed enabling two lanes of N. Main Street to be opened to carry traffic under the railroad on November 14, 2008.

Pill Drop



When: Wednesday,
September 17th, 2009
Time: 7:00 am - 4:30 pm
Where: Mishawaka
Police Department
200 N. Church St.

Any unused pills or liquid medicine is being accepted and we will dispose them properly.

For more information please contact:
Kathy Fain at
(574) 258-4863 or
Dan Gebo at
(574) 258-1678 ext 274



Trash Questions?
Call BFI at 800-888-5783
Or the Street Department
258-1660

A Letter From Mayor Jeff Rea (continued)

Due to the scope and cost of the improvements within the Main Street Corridor between downtown and SR 23 the work was divided into several phases. The Main Street Underpass is the key element within the corridor and has been advanced in the schedule. Bridges are typically the responsibility of the County but continued development on the north side of the city and frequent delays for public safety personnel coupled with the new hospital on Douglas Road made the underpass one of the most important public works projects ever undertaken by the city, also slated are much-needed improvements within the Main Street corridor are the following areas of Main Street several which will be under construction in the next year:

- First Street to South end of St. Joseph River Bridge – construction 2010
- Mishawaka Ave to Intersection Battell St.- construction 2010
- Battell St. to Donaldson (incl underpass) - completed Nov. 2009
- Donaldson to Guam incl intersection of McKinley- construction 2010
- Guam to Ardennes incl traffic signal at Leyte - completed in August 2009
- Ardennes to North of Catalpa Avenue - construction 2010

As the street construction and landscaping are completed and the underpass is fully opened to traffic I want to thank Rieth-Riley Construction of South Bend, Indiana, and their subcontractors for their commitment of meeting each construction milestone deadline and for maintaining the construction schedule to enable this project to open on time and on budget.



Battell Center **Important Dates**

September 1st
Blood Pressure
Checks



September 15th
Blood Sugar
Checks

September 16th
Fall Gardening
Classes



September 26th
"Cassandra of
Minneapolis"



United States
**Census
2010**

- April 1, 2010 -

"It's In Our Hands"

St. Joseph County, Indiana

Thanks From Code

The Code Enforcement Department would like to take this opportunity to thank those citizens who continue to maintain their yards by mowing tall weeds and grass on their properties and sidewalks.

Where alleys are concerned, property owners are responsible for maintaining the grass, bushes and any overgrowth into the alleys. Vehicles can be scratched (and trash and utility vehicles can be restricted access) by bushes and other growth extending out into the alleys.

It is helpful and suggested that homeowners display their house numbers at the alleyways. This is helpful for utility crews, trash trucks and all City of Mishawaka departments to better identify homes from the alley if the address of the property is placed at the alley as well as the front of the house.

If you have any questions regarding any of these issues, please feel free to contact the Mishawaka Code Enforcement Department at 258-1612.

First-Time Homebuyer Program

The First Time Homebuyer Program serves area residents with low to moderate level incomes who have never owned a home. Through the City of Mishawaka's Department of Community Development, new homes are constructed on lots throughout the City, revitalizing neighborhoods and increasing surrounding property values.

The First Time Homebuyer Program promotes first-time homeownership by providing down payment assistance through the City of Mishawaka. Eligible families must have incomes at 80% or below the median income for St. Joseph County, which varies according to household size. Eligible clients must also complete a homebuyer education course, qualify for a mortgage, save \$1,500 towards closing costs, and purchase the first year of homeowner's insurance.

The Department of Community Development accepts applications throughout the year. Those interested in learning more about Mishawaka's First Time Homebuyer Program should contact Andrew West, Program Coordinator, at 258-1668.

Family Size	At Least	Not More Than
1	\$27,495	\$33,800
2	\$31,395	\$38,650
3	\$35,360	\$43,450
4	\$39,260	\$48,300
5	\$42,380	\$52,150